

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A joint for a fluid pumping apparatus comprising:

a body including a trough defined in an upper portion of the body, an insertion longitudinally extending from a lower portion of the body and adapted to be inserted into an opening of a container, a passage defined in and extending through the body to communicate with an interior of the container, and a through hole longitudinally defined in the body and communicating with the interior of the container, wherein the passage is adapted to be connected to a compressed air source and a ~~minus~~ negative pressure is caused in the container when the compressed air passes through the passage in the body, the passage being T-shaped, the T-shaped passage including a first path laterally extending through the body and a second path communicating with the first path and the interior of the container, the insertion of the body having a hollow stub extending therefrom and communicating with the second path of the passage in the body, the hollow stub having a threaded outer periphery that is provided to connected to an automatic stop device; and

a connecting seat including an insertion inserted into the trough in the body and a hollow connector extending from the connecting seat, the hollow connector communicating with the through hole in the body and adapted to be connected to a hose that extends into a pail receiving the fluid for being pumped when the compressed air ~~passage~~ passing the passage in the body.

2. (Currently amended) The joint as claimed in claim 1, wherein an O-ring is mounted around the insertion of the connecting seat ~~two~~ to provide an airtight effect between an outer periphery of the insertion of the connecting seat and an inner periphery of the trough in the body.

3. (Currently amended) A The joint as claimed in claim 1, wherein for a fluid pumping apparatus comprising:

a body including a trough defined in an upper portion of the body, an insertion longitudinally extending from a lower portion of the body and adapted to be inserted into an opening of a container, a passage defined in and extending through the body to communicate with an interior of the container, and a through hole longitudinally defined in the body and communicating with the interior of the container, wherein the passage is adapted to be connected to a compressed air source and a negative pressure is caused in the container when the compressed air passes through the passage in the body; and

a connecting seat including an insertion inserted into the trough in the body and a hollow connector extending from the connecting seat, the hollow connector communicating with the through hole in the body and adapted to be connected to a hose that extends into a pail receiving the fluid for being pumped when the compressed air passing the passage in the body, the connecting seat ~~comprises~~ including two supports longitudinally extending from the insertion and a handle formed on a free end of each of the two supports, the handle having a flange outwardly extending therefrom for user to easily detach the connecting seat from the body.

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Original) The joint as claimed in claim 1, wherein the body comprises a tapered sealant mounted around the insertion of the body, the diameter of the sealant gradually reduced relative to a distal end of the insertion of the body for providing an airtight effect when the insertion of the body is inserted into the opening of the container.

7. (Currently amended) The joint as claimed in claim 3, wherein the insertion of the body has a hollow stub extending therefrom and communicating with the passage in the body, the two supports of the connecting seat diametrically correspond to each other relative to the hollow stub.

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Currently amended) The joint as claimed in claim ~~[[5]]~~ 1, wherein the automatic stop device comprises:

a sleeve mounted to the hollow stub, the sleeve having a threaded through hole defined therein for being screwed onto the threaded outer periphery of the hollow stub;

a plane formed on a free end of the sleeve opposite to the body;

a cylinder including a first end longitudinally mounted to the sleeve and a second end having an annular flange inwardly extending therefrom to define a hole;

multiple slots longitudinally defined in the cylinder and ~~laterally~~ laterally extending through the cylinder to prevent the automatic stop device from being upwardly moved due to the pressure in the container;

a shaft having a first end inserted into the cylinder and a second end having a floating element mounted to the shaft;

a stopper mounted to a middle section of the shaft and having a diameter greater than that of the hole defined by the annular flange to prevent the shaft from being detached from the cylinder; and

a valve mounted on the stopper around the shaft and facing the plane for selectively closing the passage in the body.

10. (Currently amended) The joint as claimed in claim [[8]] 1, wherein the automatic stop device comprises:

a sleeve mounted to the hollow stub, the sleeve having a threaded through hole defined therein for being screwed onto the threaded outer periphery of the hollow stub;

a plane formed on a free end of the sleeve opposite to the body;

a cylinder including a first end longitudinally mounted to the sleeve and a second end having an annular flange inwardly extending therefrom to define a hole;

multiple slots longitudinally defined in the cylinder and laterally extending through the cylinder to prevent the automatic stop device from being upwardly moved due to the pressure in the container;

a shaft having a first end inserted into the cylinder and a second end having a floating element mounted to the shaft;

a stopper mounted to a middle section of the shaft and having a

diameter greater than that of the hole defined by the annular flange to prevent the shaft from being detached from the cylinder; and

a valve mounted on the stopper around the shaft and facing the plane for selectively closing the second path of the passage in the body.